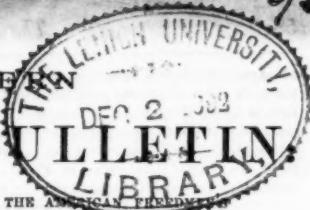


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THE WESTERN
FREEDMEN'S BULLETIN

A JOURNAL FOR THE WESTERN DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN FREEDMEN'S
AID COMMISSION.



VOL. II.

CHICAGO, ILL., MARCH, 1866.

Nos. 3 & 4.

TERMS.

The BULLETIN will be sent free to each person donating not less than \$5.00 to the Department, or its constituent Commissions.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The BULLETIN is edited by the Corresponding Secretary of the Western Department. It is designed to furnish such intelligence from the field of labor in the South as will best illustrate the physical, social and moral condition and wants of the Colored People; the nature and success of the work of the Commissions among them; and to note whatever of interest may transpire in connection with the Commissions in the North, and thus give to the public the data from which correct and intelligent views may be formed of the great work of benevolence that God has laid upon the American people.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS relating to the BULLETIN, to secure attention, may be addressed to "Rev. J. M. Walden, D. D., Box 2747, Chicago, Ill." Enclosures of money are at the risk of the senders.

Any accredited agent of the American Freedmen's Aid Commission is authorized to receive subscriptions and receipt for money in the publisher's name.

Officers of recognized auxiliaries are requested to interest themselves in extending our circulation. All lists of names, however, must be accompanied by the money.

EDITORS who may receive this paper occasionally or regularly, are respectfully requested to notice the Commission and its work, and to reprint extracts from our correspondence in the field.

We shall be glad to exchange regularly with any paper that does this.

Exchanges must be addressed "FREEDMEN'S BULLETIN, Box 2747, Chicago, Ill."

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ANNUAL REPORT, W. F. A. C.

The Board of Directors of the Western Freedmen's Aid Commission respectfully submit their Third Annual Report:

The contributions to this Society for the benefit of the Freedmen during the year ending this date, January 18th, 1866, have been as follows:

Cash paid into the Treasury.....	\$63,161.48
Stores received at the rooms (estimated value).....	163,776.00

Total for the year..... \$226,937.48

It is only possible to approximate the cash value of the stores received and forwarded, but it being desirable to give this in the annual exhibit, the General Agent has made a careful estimate. The Directory, on behalf of the Commission, gratefully acknowledges the large benefaction from the friends of humanity, at home and abroad, of which it has thus been made the almoner, and would now report how the money has been expended and the means of relief applied.

Guided by those principles which controlled in the organization of this Commission and which have determined its policy, we have steadily aimed to accomplish among the Freed people the following objects, viz:

1. To relieve destitution and suffering.
2. To foster and stimulate industry.
3. To establish and encourage schools.
4. To promote a Christian morality.

We have regarded these things as inseparable in and essential to a comprehensive and successful work of benevolence in behalf of this newly-liberated race.

THE WORK OF RELIEF.

The Freed people must have physical relief. With no voice in the events that precipitated the bloody struggle of the past four years, their privations and sufferings have exceeded those of any other class in the South, and that association which would permanently benefit them, must bear to the distressed among them the means of temporal relief.

The stores we have distributed through the agency of our teachers, who, after the day's labor in the school-room is done, go among the lowly habitations to seek out the most destitute, have relieved and prevented much suffering; but these ministrations, which have reached and relieved only the needy thousands, have had a beneficial influence on the whole body of the Freed people among whom we labor. In their condition they are benefitted in every way by benevolent effort in their behalf. Their wants have been manifold and of the most pressing nature, and their alleviation by gifts from

all parts of the North, as well as from foreign shores, borne to them by persons who labor in the spirit of love, is giving them to know that there are generous sentiments and noble sympathies cherished for them which Slavery never tolerated for its victims, and these are among the lessons of Freedom that we would first have them learn. Thus the most trying occurrences attending their emancipation, not less than the most cruel circumstances of their thralldom, have prepared them to profit by the exemplification of a true charity and the manifestation of a humane interest for them. Besides these facts to prompt us to press the work of relief, a greater number of the destitute have been accessible to our agencies this winter than at any previous period.

We prosecute this work mainly in two forms:

1. By distributing the means of relief among the needy.
2. By supporting homes or asylums for orphans, children, and helpless men and women.

A large proportion of our stores have been distributed by our teachers, who, by canvassing the localities in which they labor, and inquiring into the condition of the colored people, can exercise a judicious and proper discrimination.

The General Agent has received and forwarded during the year, 41,843 garments, 6010 pairs of stockings, 3358 pairs of boots and shoes, 1382 blankets, 1841 cooking utensils, 332 dozens of knives and forks, 112 dozens of spoons, and various other needful articles. The total value of the stores devoted to the work of relief is estimated at \$150,261. This summary includes the hospital stores and other supplies furnished to Orphan Asylums and Freedmen's Homes.

ORPHAN ASYLUMS.

A large number of colored children in the South have been made orphans by slavery and the war-orphans under the most affecting circumstances. At Columbus, Ky., President's Island, Tenn., and Washington, Miss., we have had during most of the year over one hundred of these homeless ones. Most of them were gathered in from the Freedmen's camps, where their mothers had died from disease brought on by privations and exposure. Their fathers enlisted in the national army when the colored corps was first organized, and have either fallen in battle or have been marched to and fro in the service of the country until they know not where their children are to be found and are unknown to them.

It is our policy to aid in securing homes in kind families for these homeless children, and this has been done in many instances, but they must be cared for in asylums until other and better provision can be made for them.

FREEDMEN'S HOMES.

Slavery has produced, and the War has thrown upon our care, another and a still more abject and helpless class—men and women wrecked by toil and ill-treatment, and bowed with age, now driven forth, like beasts of burden no longer serviceable to their owners, to die upon the commons. Benevolence can have no kindlier office than to gather these most pitiable ones into temporary homes. We have provided for such, and must continue to assist them until the States adopt their own poor without respect to color.

For fourteen months we have co-operated with the Government in sustaining a Freedmen's Home at Walnut Hills, three miles from Cincinnati. It has been the refuge of the destitute and helpless drifting over from Kentucky—either those who were no longer serviceable as slaves, or the wives and children of colored soldiers, whose enlistment in the national army brought upon their families their masters' wrath. In some instances, men with their families, coming here destitute of means, have been furnished a temporary home until they could find employment. 172 men, 214 women and 314 children—in all, 700 persons—have been admitted to the Home during the past year. Clothing has been furnished to all of them; homes have been secured for more than 500; a school has been kept in progress; medical attendance and medicines have been provided for the sick; and those who have died received a decent burial. The cash expenditures for this institution during the year have been \$3108 30, a larger sum than was at first estimated, arising from the fact that some necessary supplies expected from the Government have only been furnished in part; the estimated value of the clothing distributed is more than double this amount, but we believe that the local and special work to which these contributions have been applied, will be recognized as necessary and approved by our patrons.

Similar, though smaller and less expensive, Homes have been sustained, as was found needful, at Memphis, Tenn., and Washington, Miss.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF INDUSTRY.

We have aimed to foster and stimulate industry. Labor had been exacted by the lash—labor had been degraded by slavery—and hence it has been a work of humanity to encourage among the Freed people habits of industry from which it was believed they would naturally turn away. Our teachers—men and women who are conscious of the dignity of labor, and who comprehend its relation to good order and a substantial prosperity, have gone among the Freed people with precepts that are already reversing the sentiments of disrespect for honest toil imbibed from masters on the plantation and mistresses in the home. We have sent garden seeds and farming implements to the amount of \$4612, and they have been distributed mostly to aid and encourage the inmates of the Freedmen's camps to do something towards their own support by cultivating gardens, etc. The women and girls are taught to sew and encouraged to make and mend their own garments. For this purpose new goods, thread, needles, thimbles, shears, etc., to the amount of \$232, have been used by our teachers in industrial schools. Our teachers, in their visits among the Freed people, endeavor to cultivate in them habits of taste in their dress and cleanliness in their homes—thus stimulating the forms of industry that belong to the household.

THE WORK OF EDUCATION.

Especial attention has been given to common-school education. Whoever has noticed the manly spirit of the colored soldier, so different from the movements of the chattel, must have felt that no colored man into whose hand our country has placed the musket, can ever again be reduced to a slave. The alphabet is mightier than the musket—and we

know that every child that is once taught the alphabet, is thereby forever unfitted for slavery. The very protest that this system has ever persistently made against universal education, only proves it to be the first work of Freedom. While the Southern States are doing nothing in this direction, this Commission has employed 123 teachers during the year, and had more than five thousand scholars enrolled in its schools, not only unfitting them for slavery, but fitting them for freedom and American citizenship.

These teachers have labored at the Freedmen's Home at Walnut Hills, O.—in the hospital at Jeffersonville, Ind., at Louisville, Camp Nelson and Columbus, Ky.; Knoxville, Athens, Chattanooga, Cleveland, Pulaski, Shelbyville, Gallatin, Clarksville, Nashville, President's Island and Memphis, Tenn.; Helena, Duvall's Bluff and Monticello, Ark.; Vicksburg, Natchez and Washington, Miss.; Vidalia, La.; Athens and Huntsville, Ala., and Macon, Ga.

By keeping in mind the points named, it will be seen that our schools are located at important points in the South, and so situated as to exert their influence for good throughout an extended field. During the last half of the year we have not had as many teachers in the field as for the first five months. This is owing to the increased outlay necessary to sustain schools, arising from the withdrawal by Government of some forms of its co-operation. While the property of those who had outlawed themselves by their rebellion was held by military authority, buildings were furnished at many places for school-rooms and teachers' homes—these must be built or rented; until the first of August, the Government issued rations to our teachers and agents—now the whole expense of boarding them falls upon the Commission. These changes have nearly doubled the expense of sustaining a teacher in the field—a ratio greater than the increase of our cash receipts, and hence our work has necessarily been somewhat contracted.

CHARACTER AND COST OF SCHOOLS.

It being impossible for all the societies in the country to do the whole work required by the present condition of the Freedmen, it is the policy of this Commission to locate some schools where our teachers may find the greatest destitution to relieve, and to establish others which are expected to be the more permanent where they promise to be most useful to the race, and to occupy only as many points as may be occupied well. The cities and larger towns are centres of influence as well with the blacks as the whites; in them we find the colored people congregated in greatest numbers, and what is equally important, we find there the most sprightly, active and enterprising class among them; hence we have selected such centres as Nashville, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Memphis and Natchez, where the influence of such agencies as ours is likely to be most effective. Such progress has been made by the scholars that we have graded schools in Memphis and Natchez, and have a Normal Department connected with the school at Nashville, named, for the honored General who is with us to-night, the "Fisk School." A conviction that a race must be instrumental in its own elevation has prompted us to secure, at a considerable outlay, the necessary property for this school, in which colored youth are being trained as teachers and prepared for extensive usefulness.

The Annual Report being made in the middle of the school term, and near the middle of a school month, it is difficult to give with accuracy the sum expended on our schools during the year that closes to-night. The services, traveling expenses and boarding of teachers, and the building, rent and repair of school-houses and teachers' homes, have cost above \$29,000, in addition to \$5981 expended for books, slates and stationery,—making a total of more than \$35,000—showing that at least two-thirds of our entire cash expenditure have been devoted to the work of education—a work that all know must be permanent in its results upon the condition of the Freedmen and the destiny of our country.

PROMOTION OF CHRISTIAN MORALITY.

Mention must be made of a most important part of our work in which but little money has been directly expended—the promotion of a christian morality among the Freed people. This has been done by employing only christian men and women as teachers, and sending Bibles and Testaments to the Freedmen. It has been the pleasure of our teachers to engage in Sabbath-school labors, to influence the old and young to observe the Sabbath, and attend the public worship of God—to inculcate sentiments of respect for religion, and exemplify its benign power by their own works of love. The number of children gathered into our Sabbath schools has nearly equaled that in the day schools, and many adults have had the Bible—the Book they really prize above all others—read to them by teachers in their visits to their lowly homes. While to the Church belongs the work of sending missionaries and organizing churches, we have regarded it as due to the sentiments of christians who do most to sustain our cause, as well as to the Freed people themselves, to direct all our agencies so as to commend religion and exert an influence favorable to the work of evangelization, to which God is calling His people. No society of merely human origin is warranted in undertaking more; no society, supported by a christian public, is justified in doing less.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM EUROPE.

The contributions to this Commission have come chiefly from Ohio and Great Britain. The friends of humanity in Great Britain have manifested a deep interest in the welfare of the people made free in the progress of our national struggle, and have organized societies for their assistance. LEVI COFFIN and Rev. Dr. H. M. STORRS have visited that country in behalf of our society, to direct the attention of our friends there to the great work that was to be done in the Mississippi Valley. Chiefly as the result of their labors, our Treasurer has received in cash during the year, \$35,348 08 from England, Ireland and Scotland, and \$741 56 from France. Large quantities of new goods and valuable clothing have been received, the estimated value of which is \$37,968 20.

HOME COLLECTIONS.

The Indiana Commission, an auxiliary society, having become responsible for the canvass of that State, our home field for collections has been practically confined to Ohio. Until the close of the war, the appeals of the Christian and Sanitary Commissions were so constantly before the people, and it was found so difficult to secure the right men for the

work, that we only had one collecting agent in the field this year, prior to the first of September. We now have four in Ohio.

It was confidently believed that when the Christian and Sanitary Commissions should close their labors, that the benevolence of the public would seek channels through which it would reach and bless the Freed people. We regret to record that these expectations have not been fully realized, though our collections are somewhat increased. The cash receipts from the home-field, and the stores from the same at the estimated value, amount to \$169,066.63.

UNION OF SOCIETIES.

The work of benevolence in behalf of the Freedmen has from the first been prosecuted by independent associations, and in this respect has been unlike, though no less national in its nature and purpose, the other great benevolent movements by which our people have, during the war, manifested both their humanity and patriotism. It has long been the conviction of many active friends in this country, that the national and catholic nature of this work required a national and catholic organization for its efficient and successful prosecution; and these friends at home, with many of our most devoted co-laborers in Great Britain, have earnestly desired that an union of the various societies might be effected. This Commission approved the steps to this end taken at Washington in December, 1863, by a committee from the principal societies in the country. This Commission also approved the action of a convention of Western Societies at Indianapolis in July, 1864, which adopted a plan for the union of said societies.

At our last annual meeting, the Board of Directors was authorized to consummate an union with the Northwestern Commission, and at a subsequent meeting of the Commission, authority was given to unite with Eastern Societies. Though none of these plans were finally carried out, they prepared the way for the organization of a General Society required by the rapid expansion of the work to be done for the Freedmen after the close of the war, and which has been established under the name of **THE AMERICAN FREEDMEN'S AID COMMISSION.**

Its Western Department, which comprises the work in the West, has been organized by the Western and Northwestern Commissions, and all their teachers and agents have received a common credential from the American Commission. The purpose has been to give unity to the work before the public, and at the same time reserve to each local society such powers as are deemed necessary to make them effective in the prosecution of their given work.

It is the duty of the State to educate its children and provide for its poor, without respect to color, but until the reformation in public sentiment, which has happily begun in the South, is accomplished, and until her people recover from the poverty they have brought upon themselves through disloyalty and rebellion—it will be the privilege no less than the duty of the loyal, the patriotic and humane, who are blessed with prosperity, to contribute of their means for the support of schools among the Freedmen of the South, and for the alleviation of the sufferings that darken the stricken half of our common country.

IN MEMORIAM.

Two of our teachers have died during the year: **WILLIAM PENN STANTON**, of Oskaloosa, Iowa, and **MISS EMMA M. LORD**, of Chesterville, Ohio.

William P. Stanton left his home early in April, 1864, and entered upon his duties as a teacher and local agent at Gallatin, Tenn., about the middle of the month. He had charge of our work in Gallatin and at the Freedmen's camp in that vicinity. Besides teaching and superintending the schools in the town and at the camp, he supervised the distribution of stores among the destitute—attended to the other duties of a local agent—an amount of labor that could only be performed by constant application. In these labors he was subject to the privations and exposures incident to our work at most places. These causes doubtless hastened the development of a disease to which he was predisposed. He labored on without informing the Commission that his health was being impaired, until failing strength admonished him that he must retire from the work he loved. Broken in health, he returned to his home about the middle of May, 1865, where he soon after died. This Commission has had no more faithful laborer—no more exemplary christian in its service, and we are pleased to record that to the last he was cheered with a consciousness of having served his Lord in his labors of love for the Freedmen.

A year ago, three young ladies, endeared to each other by christian friendship, applied for positions as teachers—each expressing the most earnest desire to work for the elevation of the Freedmen. They were drawn to this field, as hundreds are, by a conviction that here they could do good—serve God by working for humanity. About the middle of May, they passed through Cincinnati en route to Clarksville, Tenn., as happy a trio as we have seen, rejoicing in spirit that the way of usefulness was opening before them. The camp at Clarksville contained above one thousand Freed people, mostly women and children, better provided for than in most camps, but crowded together in long, low barracks. Here these teachers found the sick to be nursed—the infirm to be cared for—the ragged to be clothed—children to be gathered into school, and all in need of religious instruction—and the Superintendent assures us that none could have been more earnest and devoted in effort than these three young ladies. Miss Emma M. Lord was one of the number. A short month after she entered upon her duties she was taken sick. She had unconsciously overtaxed herself in her labors of love, and fell a victim to the disease. She died at Clarksville, the 27th of last June, her two companions and co-laborers at her side, but her widowed mother, and other kindred, far away.

This noble work in behalf of the Freed people—in behalf of Humanity—is being carried forward through sacrifices. Many contributions, both of money and stores, come from those who deny themselves in order to give—teachers have gone from lucrative positions and good homes to teach and live in rude and uncomfortable buildings, receiving for their toil and privation only a bare support, beyond the consciousness of having part in the grandest charity of the age. The cause and those who thus give and labor for it are honored in each other.

J. M. WALDEN, Cor. Sec'y.

General Agent's Report, W. F. A. C.

The labors of this Commission have been much enlarged during the past year, and never has there been a time, since the commencement of our work for the Freedmen, that there has been more call for help in this great Southwestern field of labor. We have also, through the exertions of our agents and friends, received much larger supplies of clothing and other goods than in any preceding year since the work began; yet the supplies have been inadequate to the demand. We have received and distributed the following list of goods, amounting to \$163,776:

41,943 Garments,	\$135,985
6,910 pairs Stockings and Socks	2,073
3,958 pairs Boots and Shoes	5,979
1,962 Blankets,	4,086
7 Stoves	210
3,961 yards new goods	1,961
1,841 pieces Cooking Utensils,	461
332 dozen Knives and Forks	498
112 dozen Spoons	180
1,450 pounds Hospital Supplies	780
6,125 pounds Garden Seeds	4,240
480 Farming Implements	372
17,520 School Books	5,488
2,870 Slates	430
72 dozen bottles Ink	36
12 gross Pens	20
1,800 Pencils,	7
180 papers Needles	45
45 dozen Thimbles	45
420 dozen Buttons	45
480 dozen Hooks and Eyes	36
24 pairs Shears	14
110 dozen Spools	165
15 pounds Thread	25
Sundries for Schools, etc	580
Total.....	\$163,776

Of this amount, \$87,968.20 was received from England, Ireland and Scotland—chiefly from England, and mostly new goods. The balance was received from the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Massachusetts, Western New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

We have distributed these goods at different points in the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana, through our agents and teachers, to the most destitute. Our home demand for clothing and other supplies has also been quite large.

A great number of helpless women and children, and aged and sick persons, who were driven off from Kentucky and other States, congregated in and around this city in great destitution and suffering, and came under our care.

A Freedmen's Home was erected on Walnut Hill, which still continues to be a heavy expense to us, but through the blessing of God and the liberality of the friends of the Freedmen, we are comforted in believing that we have been instrumental in relieving much suffering.

LEVI COFFIN,
General Agent.

Treasurer's Report, W. F. A. C.

The receipts and disbursements of the Treasury of the Western Freedmen's Aid Commission for the year commencing January 20, 1865, and ending January 18, 1866, have been as follows:

	Receipts	Disbursements
January, 1865, (12 days).....	\$1358 42	\$5865 73
February.....	5048 76	4600 40
March.....	9331 13	1062 00
April.....	7346 80	5867 35
May.....	788 94	2600 00
June.....	5258 71	2236 22
July.....	388 65	1750 00
August.....	7264 90	4985 02
September.....	2684 04	1500 00
October.....	1873 29	6655 95
November.....	1811 73	5099 73
December.....	9290 79	5185 73
January, 1866, (18 days).....	2726 61	

Of the above receipts, the following are from foreign sources, namely:

From England, Ireland and Scotland..... \$35,348 08
" France..... 741 86

Total foreign contributions..... \$36,089 94

In response to the appeal for a collection on Thanksgiving Day, there has been received, to this date, \$1919.62.

The total amount received into the Treasury for the past year has been \$63,161.48.

J. F. LARKIN, Treasurer.

FROM THE SOUTH.

BUREAU OF REFUGEES, FREEDMEN AND
ABANDONED LANDS.
OFFICE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, VICKSBURG, Miss., Jan. 22, 1866.

Rev. J. M. WALDEN, D. D.:

DEAR SIR,—Col. Thomas has handed over your request for matter for publication, and has asked me to comply with it. I shall be happy to do so, as far as I have time. But you will readily understand that when I seek by all means to extend our schools, and have to attend to those already established, I have little time to give to writing to friends or newspapers.

Last week I accomplished a purpose that I had for some time entertained. We wished to place teachers in as many inland towns, and on many plantations as possible; and learning that something might be done at Port Gibson, I took Miss Carrie Clarke, one of your teachers, and proceeded to that place.

I had heard that a southern gentleman, whom I had once met and talked with, wished for a teacher for the colored people on his place; and I had determined to offer Miss Clarke's services to him before seeking to place her in the town. I thought that if we could get a plantation school to work well in that neighborhood, its ultimate good influence would be greater than that of a school in town. Accordingly I sought out that gentleman first. I found that he had engaged a man in his neighborhood as a teacher, and therefore did not require one of ours. The teacher engaged is a southern man, poorly qualified probably. Most likely the teaching which he will do will not be much in amount or in quality; but something is gained by the mere fact that he employs any teacher. I could do nothing but encourage him, and furnish him some books. This man was an officer in the rebel army, and has nearly all his former slaves about him now, working under a very fair contract.

The Sub-Commissioner of the Bureau then told me of a northern family, who had hired a place nine miles from Port Gibson, and wanted a teacher. Leaving Miss C. at a boarding-house, I rode out with the Sub-Commissioner to that place, and spent the night there. We found the family fully determined to have their people taught; but the gentleman had just concluded an arrangement with a young man from Indiana, to put his means into the concern and become a partner, taking the school as his part of the duties of the place. To this, of course, I could make no objection.

On our way back to town we called on another northern family, which occupies a nice plantation, and hires a large number of hands. We tried to persuade them to take in Miss C., because I was extremely unwilling to give up the plan of putting her on a plantation; but we found them timid. They said the neighborhood would be offended by the presence of a northern teacher, and would burn their place on her account. They told sad stories of the prejudices and enmity of those around them, and thought they ought not to add the provocation of a teacher to what was already dangerous enough.

Then we came back to the town. We found that Miss C. had made a pleasant acquaintance with the people of the boarding-house, who had asked her to favor them by remaining as a boarder. This removed what I had feared would be an insuperable difficulty—finding her a pleasant place to live in. I at once saw some of the principal colored people. I found that they had obtained the use of some dilapidated rooms, which they are to repair by way of paying for the use of them. I agreed with them that Miss C. should remain with them; and they promised immediately to put windows and seats into what was once a very pretty octagonal building. She is to have a school of girls, and is to charge them a dollar each a month for tuition, except in such cases as she may judge it best to do otherwise. I left this to her discretion. What money she gets will be carried to the credit of your Commission, and I hope it may relieve you from a large part of her support.

The reason why we determined that her school should be for girls only, was, that a young colored man had recently come there from Louisville, and opened a school. We had not heard of this before our arrival. There are children enough for both; and it suits the prejudices of southern people, of both colors, to separate boys and girls. The young man is charging a dollar and a half a month tuition-fee. If he prove acceptable, he will make a good income.

When I left the town no opposition to our scheme had been offered. It may, however, be developed. Popular favor we cannot expect. The best we can look for is to be "let alone." The colored teacher says he has been told by citizens that if he remained he would be in danger. We must wait and see what will happen. If they drive Miss C. out, I have the promise of a guard to reinstate and protect her. That they will endanger her life I have no fear; but they may make it impossible for her to keep her boarding place, or to find another.

I went to see the Methodist minister in charge in Port Gibson, and asked for the use of his church, that I might give the colored people a public talk. I did not get it. He told me that they wanted no assistance from northern people in teaching the colored people, or in preaching to them; that the south knew its duty to them, and was quite ready

to do it. I answered that I was glad to hear that; but I had thought they might not have qualified persons who were willing to teach colored schools. He said this was quite a misapprehension; they had a plenty ready at once to do it. I hinted that if they had already begun to do it, I should not have been there. He said I had better take Miss C. back with me: they would do all that is necessary. I told him that she should be taken away the moment it should appear that the work could be done as well and as promptly without her. I then invited him to visit her school, to watch her moral influence, and to aid her in doing good. He made no answer; and did not look much as if he would comply with my invitation.

I have to-day learned that the house, in which your teachers are living at De Soto, opposite Vicksburg, is claimed by a private party. We had thought it Government property. If the teachers are ousted there, it may seriously injure a large and interesting school.

So we go. For one step we get forward we have twenty steps to make; happy if all the twenty are not in vain.

Yours most truly,

JOSEPH WARREN, Chaplain,
- State Supt. of Education.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Feb., 1866.

* * * There are now from three to four thousand freedmen here, besides about three thousand colored soldiers. Small-pox is raging fearfully among them, and many are dying. Very many are extremely destitute and much suffering exists. A large quantity of clothing has been distributed, and much more is needed. The tales of wretchedness we daily hear are sickening. Here is one of many similar: A man, woman and six children lived with their former master in Northern Alabama through the summer and "made the crop." They received no pay—no clothes—scanty food and much abuse. The father, about the first of January, started for Chattanooga, to earn by his labor the means of supplying them with sufficient food. On the way he was shot dead, robbed and thrown into the bushes by one of the *chivalry*. The mother learning the facts from a companion of her husband, who escaped the murderer, ran away in the night with her six children, youngest but three months old, and two orphan girls, and in something more than a week walked to Chattanooga, one hundred miles, and reached here the last of January, with every child barefoot and almost naked. Yesterday, she called upon us for help again, and reported that two of her children had died from exposure. She is now seeking redress of the Freedmen's Bureau for the destruction of a few articles she had collected for her family and for outrages committed upon her person since she came here by another member of the *chivalry*. Instances of this character are by no means rare, but are of common

occurrence throughout this whole region. And yet, the President thinks the South is "reconstructed!" The friends of the Government, who are in the South, know better.

VICKSBURG, Miss., February 1, 1866.

* * * * * The fine large school-house that you remember, stood near the Methodist church in this city, has been taken down, and now lies a heap of useless lumber in the Quartermaster's yard, all to accommodate some reconstructed rebel, who has been pardoned, etc. Chaplain Edwards has been trying to purchase a lot for the purpose of putting it up again; but to no purpose. The moment that any of our good Union-loving people understand that a negro school-house is to be erected, they refuse to sell at any price. There are any number of vacant lots in and around the city, which the owners wish to sell, but there seems to be a general understanding among the citizens, that no ground shall be sold for this purpose.

The school-house, owned by the United Presbyterians, I understand, will have to be removed also. From the disposition of the people of this city (a sample of the whole South,) you may judge what the prospect will be for the education of the Freedmen in the future, when the State of Mississippi has been admitted to the Union, and the military withdrawn. I do not believe the people of the South will ever voluntarily undertake the education of the people, and, if the States are to be admitted without guaranteeing this most important point, the war has been in vain, and our labor is for nought.

PADUCAH, KY., February 21, 1866.

* * * * * I am happy to say, I think the good work is prospering here. It is my opinion that the public sentiment is improving. There is far less opposition than formerly. We have just had an exhibition of the colored schools—a *decided success*. The large hall, in which it was held, was crowded to overflowing, but few whites were present; but those who were carried away a good report. The colored people are enthusiastic over it. I trust, the interest thus awakened will continue and be productive of great good.

H. M. BARSTOW.

OFFICE STATE SUPT. FREEDMEN'S SCHOOLS, }
AUGUSTA, GA., January 16, 1866.

Teachers are needed in Darien, Thomasville, Bainbridge, Albany, Fort Valley, Americus, Oglethorpe, Cuthbert, Thomaston, Griffin, Marietta, Rome, Madison, Greensboro, and one teacher here. In all those places named are buildings either belonging to the Government or the Freed people, which can be used as school-houses. In each of those places one gentleman and one or two lady assistants can find very encouraging and interesting labor. Board will cost from \$30 to \$40 per month. The cost of reaching these

points depends wholly of course upon the point from which the teachers start and the route traveled, but I would advise that no teacher be sent out with less than \$100 or \$150.

G. L. EBERHART.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Jan. 1866.

* * * * * The St. Francis Street Methodist church, (white) of this city, at its last quarterly conference, voted to support three missionary teachers for colored schools in this city. The world moves and carries the church south with it. Perhaps God has a seed to serve him, in these southern churches, and therefore He preserves organization. We shall all rejoice that the work of education is receiving new helpers.

J. SILSBY.

MOBILE, ALA., Feb. 21, 1866.

DEAR BROTHER,— The weather has been very unpleasant here. It was so cold on Friday and Saturday, that there was no school. It rained terribly on Sunday and Sunday night. The building being partially unroofed for repairs, the rain came down in streams into almost every room, till they were flooded and abandoned; the rain and falling plastering making it very unpleasant as well as unsafe. Dry corners were sought for beds and tables—a general moving took place, till all were quartered (not comfortably) for the night. The morning came; holes were bored in the floors—brooms and mops were brought into requisition—the fallen plastering cleared up, and at 9 o'clock, 350 children assembled; of course, the whole building was cold and wet, but the schools were continued.

I wish that every person, who has contributed to the Commission to carry on this work, could have witnessed the morning exercises. I am sure none would regret the investment, but rejoice in having the privilege of aiding so great and glorious a work.

The children came into the audience room from their respective departments quietly and in good order, and participated in the devotions of the morning, by repeating passages of scripture, singing and prayer, which could not fail to impress the minds and hearts of all present. A few earnest and plain remarks from the Principal, and they were sent with the same order to their rooms.

A lady from Boston was present at the opening exercises, and after all was over, remarked to me, "What a glorious work!" "Boston," she said, "prided herself on her schools; that guests were invited to see them, but that the exhibitions prepared for the reception of the Prince of Wales, were not more impressive than those she had just witnessed; that the children performed their part as well as those of the Boston schools." I cannot speak for the Boston schools, but I can say that I never saw children at the North do better. Truly, it is a glorious work, and we

at the North should have more sympathy with it, and for those who engage in it.

The work with this people brings its own reward, and is a source of comfort to all engaged. But the difficulties to be overcome in prosecuting it, the privations to which they are subjected from want of funds to provide the plainest of home comforts, are such as their friends know little of, but are the teacher's greatest trials. Could societies provide means to erect permanent school buildings, and homes for teachers, these difficulties could in a great measure be overcome.

There seems to be no other but the College available for the Asylum, and to provide for it here will require some outlay, which Mr. Branch has been unwilling to make in view of the uncertainty of holding the building. It seems now quite certain that he will be able to hold it, though there are influences at work to prevent it. Were the Asylum permanently located in the building, it would increase the chances for holding it, and I would suggest the improvement to be made. Nothing has yet reached here to clothe the children with as they come in. This I think is expected. Mrs. Branch should have a sewing machine. Can you not send her one at once? Send Wilcox & Gibbs', as she is acquainted with it. It is very difficult to get help, and Mrs. Branch is really overworked.

Very respectfully, D. T. ALLEN.

CLARKSVILLE, TENN., January 31st, 1866.

DEAR FRIEND,—My pupils attended more regularly during the past month than they had any time before, and made rapid advancement. Their deportment was as good as could be expected, and most of them seem quite susceptible to moral training. I give one instance of remarkable talent, viz: A little girl, six years old, who was never still, and hardly ever seen looking on her book, but in her class she would read well, and then scarcely look at her lesson.

We met with much encouragement in regard to our Sabbath School, as the people manifested by their regular attendance, their increased interest. My class was an infant class of eighteen little girls who were very attentive and tried to remember what I read and related to them.

HANNAH HUGHES.

FR. SCOTT, January 1, 1866.

DEAR BROTHER,—As regards the school, the report stands about the same as to numbers and average attendance as heretofore. We notice every month a general progress. We closed what we call our fall term with a most interesting examination. Our law is *drill*, and we were very proud of its results. We take a two weeks vacation for the purpose of repairs, necessary rest for the pupils of more frail constitution, and the regulation of affairs about the house.

We have just held a festival (i. e. Christmas.) Receipts, \$67.25. Expenses, \$26.30. Profits, \$40.95.

Upon Thanksgiving day we held services and explained the custom, thus initiating the people into the celebration of the day. It was suggested that a contribution be taken for the benefit of our work. It was done, and resulted in a small contribution.

The distress, now that the winter is come, is very great. We gave away in December, 226 garments. The issue of rations is about stopped. It is a severe thing for the decrepit and old. Yours very truly,

WILLIAM A. ADAMS.

—
QUINCY, ILL., Jan., 1866.

DEAR FRIEND,—I received safely the box of books and globe you sent by Mr. Van Doorn. I thank you much for them, and the scholars were very much pleased with the "books and that little word," the globe. One of them said, "Tell the people off there that we are very much obliged to them and we will try to learn all we can under the circumstances." The children were particularly pleased with their Bibles. All the scholars who can read are formed into two classes, the Bible and the Testament classes. We do not attempt the study of the Bible, but all read a portion of Scripture at the commencement of school both in the morning and afternoon. At first these Bible lessons occupied a great deal of time, as several minutes would sometimes be required for a scholar to spell a verse, but now we spend perhaps one-fourth of our time in school in the exercises, and I feel that the time could not be spent more profitably. The moral effect upon them of pursuing this course of instruction is already visible.

I have become very strongly attached to my scholars. Some of them are remarkably quick to learn, and are really very promising children. Yours,

E. Y. HANCOCK.

—
PINE BLUFF, ARK., Feb. 10th, 1866.

DEAR SIR,—. . . . Clothing, especially for women and children, is greatly needed here. A considerable part of what I got I distributed in the camp, and there are many in town very needy. There are also many returning from Texas, who were sent there during the war, and never knew that they were free until on their return here. They were held and treated in Texas as under the old defunct law of Slavery. Now they are coming back to their old homes in a very destitute condition; many of them in a manner naked, willing to work, and hiring out as fast as they can get suitable places; but what these poor mortals are to do, until they can earn something to clothe themselves and children with, is more than I can tell. . . .

Very respectfully,

T. S. BYERS.

MOBILE, ALA., December 31st, 1865.

* * * * Our teachers will hereafter be required to spend one hour each day in sewing and refitting old garments for the needy. A sewing society of the colored women are to meet once a week at the College for the same purpose. The ten boxes of goods sent us have been distributed—not a garment left on hand. Much of it, however, was very poor and dirty, not fit for any use—a portion nothing but rags—yet, some garments were good—good enough. . . .

January 7th, 1866.

* * * * Commenced asylum—too many poor, suffering children dying around me—cannot endure it—must help them. Have been begging from children and parents for clothing, and money, getting something—send on the goods—hundreds will die for want of clothing. Large numbers are coming to the city in a starving and naked condition. Do send us some bedding, both for teachers and orphans. This we need more than anything else. * * * *

January 8th, 1866.

* * * * There has been such a constant stream of women and children flocking to me for clothing. I feel compelled to inform you of our destitution. Women and children, nearly naked—sick and in distress, are coming to me. Ten several cases have called upon me to bury their dead. Some are actually found dead in the streets, and refused burial. * * * *

E. C. BRANCH.

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, December 21st, 1865.

* * * I have distributed every thing which Mr. J. B. Brown, of the Sanitary Commission, and Mrs. Haviland, left in my hands, excepting a few undershirts, which I shall sell, to enable me to pay burial expenses and doctor's bills already contracted. We are greatly in want of bedding. The freshet last summer swept away everything from about forty-eight families. They are still very destitute. I promised them some aid this winter. We very much need a little money to aid the recently discharged colored soldiers. Many of them are sick and destitute and need assistance. There are others who came to this State with the returning colored regiments, and who have not acquired a legal residence, whom to save from suffering, must be assisted. This number is not large.

A school or two are much needed here. There are but three schools in the city to accommodate seven hundred and eighty-four children. These schools are full to overflowing, and yet, they have in them less than four hundred scholars; the remainder have no means of education. * * *

C. H. LANGSTON.

MONTICELLO, ARK., January 3d, 1866.

* * * * * I should have said before that my school was the first one ever taught here.

When I began to teach, only four knew their letters, but now, all that have come steadily, are spelling, and I hope to have some of them reading this month. I started a Sunday school last Sunday. Have no help, except that of a colored minister. The children were very much interested in this school. * * *

SUSAN T. SACKETT.

NATCHEE, MISS., Jan., 1866.

* * * * The soldiers are quite punctual in attendance when duty does not keep them. They seem to esteem it a great privilege to go to school, and are always kind and attentive. They study well, and for the few hours they have to themselves improve very rapidly. . . .

CORA R. SISSON.

MEMPHIS, TENN., Feb 26, 1866.

. . . The faculty of the colored people for making money and gathering around them the necessaries to accommodate their simple wants is truly wonderful. Many of the families in the settlement between this and the city are building rude fences around small patches of earth for gardens. I will try to ascertain their need of seeds, etc.

LUE A. HENLEY.

NASBY ON THE "NIGGER."

ALLUZ assert that the nigger will never be able to take care uv hisself, but will allus be a public burden. He may, possibly, give us the lie by goin to work. In sich a emergency the dooty uv every Dimecrat is plane. He must not be allowed to work. Assocashens must be orgenized, pledged to neether give him employmen, to work with him, to work for enny one who will give him work, or patronise enny one who duz. (I would sejest that such uv us ez hez bin forchoonit enuff 2 git credit, pay a trifle on account, so as to make our patronage worth suthin.) This course rigidly and persistently follerred, wood drive the best uv em to steelin, and the balance to the poor houses, provin wot we hev alluz claimed, that they air a idle and vishus race. Think, my brethren, wat a inspirin effek our poor housis and jails full uv niggers would hev on the people! My sole expanz ez I contemplait the delitful vision.

THE TRUE PROBLEM.—The true problem remains, not how to remove the colored man from his present field of labor, but how to make him, where he is, a true freeman, and an intelligent and useful citizen. The means are simple: protection by the Government until his political and social status enables him to protect himself; offering to his legitimate ambition the stimulant of a perfectly fair chance in life, and granting to him the rights which, in every just organization of society, are coupled with corresponding duties.—*Carl Schurz' Report.*

AMERICAN FREEDMEN'S AID COMMISSION.

GENERAL OFFICE:

444 Fourteenth St., above G, Washington, D. C.GEORGE C. WARD, *Treasurer*,
36 Wall Street, New York.JACOB R. SHEPHERD, *Secretary*.GEORGE C. WARD, *Treasurer*,
36 Wall Street.

EASTERN DEPARTMENT:

Office, 69 Nassau Street, New York.J. MILLER MCKIM, *Secretary*,
GEORGE C. WARD, *Treasurer*,
36 Wall Street.

WESTERN DEPARTMENT:

Office, 25 Lombard Block, Chicago.LEVI COFFIN, *Secretary*,
57 Sixth Street, Cincinnati.*Correspondence relating to the appointment and maintenance of teachers and local agencies; to the collection and shipment of stores; to the organization of local societies; and to all other similar details, should be addressed to the *Secretary of the Department* within which the writer resides or proposes to act, or to the Secretary of the nearest constituent Commission.**Correspondence relating to the general policy of the Commission, and to questions of general concern; together with all correspondence from Europe and the Pacific Coast, should be addressed to the General Secretary at Washington.**Remittances from individuals and local organizations within either Department, should be addressed to the Treasurer of the Department.**Remittances from the Pacific Coast, from organizations not situated in either Department, and from localities beyond the limits of the United States, should be addressed to the General Treasurer at New York.**The prompt, earnest, and effective co-operation of all friends of the American Freedmen is respectfully invited.***The Freedmen's Bulletin.**

CHICAGO, MARCH, 1866.

NOTE.—*The January BULLETIN was double the usual size, in view of which none was published in February, and this, the third in the series for the year, is issued for March.*

EFFECT OF THE VETO.

How will President Johnson's veto affect the work of the Freedmen's Aid Commission? Those who are interested in our cause—those who understand its relation to the future as well as the present condition of the Freedmen are fearful that what is already discouraging will prove disastrous. We wish it could be said in truth that these apprehensions are without foundation.

Could this act of the President be considered apart from every other act of his administration bearing upon our work, important and significant as it may be, it would not occasion so much distrust and alarm—but it is not an isolated fact—it stands prominent in a series of transactions, all tending in one direction, the culmination of which may or may not have been reached.

Since President Johnson came into power, the co-operation of the Government has been almost entirely withdrawn from all associa-

tions laboring in behalf of the Freedmen. During the last two years of the war—through all those weary months when the nation was moving every energy to crush the rebellion—when the first and all-absorbing business of the Government was to prosecute the war—the representatives of Northern benevolence were encouraged, protected and aided in their efforts to relieve and educate the emancipated blacks. Transportation, rations, quarters and school-rooms were furnished to them. But since the close of the war order has succeeded order until the Freedmen's Bureau is entirely powerless to render any direct co-operation beyond transporting our stores and giving a bare protection of our work.

If this change of policy was instituted on the ground of economy, it still seems strange that a work which was deemed of such importance as to receive governmental aid when the debt of the nation was daily augmenting, a work rendered more important by the close of the war than it ever had before, should be set aside on that ground when the expenses of the nation were daily decreasing. And in this connection it may be stated that the Commission was saving thousands of dollars per month to the Government. In February, 1864, Quartermaster General MEIGS requested the Secretary of War to issue a general order for the transportation of the stores of the Freedmen's Commissions on the ground that they would supply wants that otherwise must be met from appropriations to the Quartermaster's Department, and the order was made.

The practicability of furnishing rations is recognized in the fact that our teachers and agents were permitted to purchase supplies of the Commissary Department by the same order that cut off their rations. This order by which so much co-operation was withdrawn from an agency that had been and still continued to be both an auxiliary of the Government and the helper of the Freed people, at once added about thirty per cent. to the necessary expenses of the Commissions.

Then followed the restoration of the property of rebels in which our teachers lived and taught. And it is to be borne in mind that the buildings thus occupied were, as a rule, the property of the most arrant rebels in the South. To mention but one of many instances: we had our Asylum at Natchez in a house owned by Col. Walworth, than whom there was not a more bitter, insolent and vin-

dictive traitor in all the land. We had there, for several months, an average of more than eighty orphan children, many of whose fathers fell in battle and whose mothers died from privations occasioned by the war. The rebel owner was "reconstructed"—the property was restored—and those children of colored patriots were crowded together in a small building in Natchez, which was only secured by the payment of an exorbitant rent, while the rebel's house has been tenantless ever since.

Application after application has been made to the Government for the use of the barracks hospitals and other buildings erected at many points in the South, but instead of granting these petitions, the buildings were torn down and sold, when it was well known to the authorities that it was almost impossible to rent buildings for our use, and where possible that they could only be secured at rates too high for benevolent enterprises. There have been but one or two exceptions to this rule of action in the whole West. By the persistent efforts of Maj. Gen. Fisk, the railroad hospital buildings in Nashville were assigned to school purposes, thereby making it practicable to establish a Normal School that promises great usefulness, and at the same time proving that a similar policy might have been pursued at every other point where there were government buildings.

Here we have rations cut off; transportation for teachers withheld; schools and asylums dispossessed, and in many instances schools broken up to reinstate rebels; the use of government buildings refused in almost every instance; and last of all comes the veto, by which traitors everywhere will be emboldened to throw every obstacle possible in the way of our work.

There is one significant fact in connection with all this. Next to a regiment of colored soldiers, a school of colored children is the thing most obnoxious to disloyal men and women. We would not say that knowing this, as the President has so well known it, a part of his plan to conciliate the South has been to sever that tacit alliance between the Government and Northern benevolence formed under the administration of his noble predecessor for the great work that God in His providence had laid upon the nation. We only say that his policy, from first to last, has embarrassed our work and limited the influence of the grandest charity to which the war has given rise.

Shall we cease our efforts? By no means. The things that embarrass us are the very things that make our efforts in behalf of the Freedmen the more necessary. The spirit in the South that opposes our schools will as stoutly oppose every other movement to educate the colored people. Upon the maintenance of our work hangs the issue of universal education, and on this issue depends the future of the Freedmen.

The President assures us that the present Freedmen's Bureau will continue a year yet. While it continues we may have protection in the more important places. It is therefore manifestly our duty to make the schools at such places as large and efficient as possible. The number of teachers may be quadrupled at once at such points as Memphis, Vicksburg, etc., and yet every one have a full complement of scholars. Let fifty cities and large towns, for the next twelve months, be made centres of light for the colored people of the Mississippi Valley—instead of the twenty thousand of their children in school, let the number be increased to one hundred thousand—especially let the most promising of the youth be brought into Normal Schools and urged forward in their studies as rapidly as may be, so that should we be compelled to withdraw, they will remain to take up the work. This is the all-important year for the friends of liberty and humanity to push on this work. Let our efforts be equal to the opportunity—as is the day, so be our strength.

WANTON MURDER.—At Springhill, Tenn., on the 17th of February, a former rebel soldier went into the house where our teachers have rooms, and shot and mortally wounded a colored man, formerly of the 48d U. S. C. I. This was done near the middle of the day, in a room adjoining the one occupied by our teachers, and done without any good reason.

The authorities have been appealed to, but nothing has been done to insure the punishment of the murderer. His victim was only a "nigger." This murdered man braved the storms of shot and shell that rained about Petersburg; received an honorable discharge from the army, and came home to be shot by a sneaking rebel.

On the night of Sabbath the 23d, the windows of the school-house at the same place were smashed to pieces, and the house otherwise damaged.

W. F. A. COMMISSION.—The Annual Report of the Western F. Aid Commission occupies considerable space in this number. It is published not only because it gives the operations of that society for the past year, but also because it states definitely and briefly the whole province of unsectarian societies operated by christian men for the benefit of the Freed people. We believe that even those who are most familiar with the Freedmen's work will be glad to have before them the plain and concise statement furnished by this Report, and it may be of service to all who would understand the greatest charity that God has ever laid upon a nation.

STORES FROM ENGLAND.—During the month ending Jan. 27th, the N. Y. N. Freedmen's Association received from England, 12 packages and 5 bales, value, £222 15s. 3d.; the Philadelphia Friends' Society received 42 packages and 24 bales, value, £1474 9s. 4d.; the W. F. A. Commission, Cincinnati, 17 packages and 10 bales, value, £523 19s. 11d. Total value, £2221 4s. 6d.; or, at the current rate of exchange, above \$15,000. Most of the stores sent from Great Britain are new and substantial. It is certain that most of the 35 bales contained new woolen blankets and other woolen and cotton fabrics. Large quantities of the best linseys have been sent over during the past two years.

FREEDMEN'S SCHOOLS IN S. C.—From the January Report of the State Superintendent of Education under the Freedmen's Bureau in South Carolina, it appears that 109 teachers were employed among the Freedmen of that State in December. 6420 pupils were registered; the average attendance, 4504. Of the number enrolled, 4879 were reading; 3206 studied arithmetic; 1846 studied geography; 2983 were writing. 86 of the teachers were natives; 73 from the North; 35 were colored. Of the pupils, 565 were free before the war—that is, the benevolence of the North is educating on the "sacred soil" of South Carolina nearly 6000 persons who, before the war, were chattels and doomed to ignorance!

CHARLESTON, S. C.—A correspondent of the Chicago *Journal*, writing from Charleston, S. C., says: "The 'slave pen' is vacant and dilapidated, and the South Carolina Club, a splendid marble edifice, where none but the 'chivalry' were allowed to enter, presents a beggarly account of broken window panes, and is given over to negro balls and plantation break-downs!"

SOLDIERS' OFFERING.—The 56th Regiment U. S. C. I., which has been stationed for some time at Helena, Ark., has contributed nearly \$1000 to purchase land for the permanent location of the Orphan Asylum which has been sustained at Helena for two years by northern benevolence.

ACTS OF INJUSTICE.—From the reports of the Freedmen's Bureau at Mobile, we learn that during the fortnight ending Feb. 17th, 342 colored persons applied to the Agent for redress of grievances at the hands of white citizens. Of this number, 315 applied for collection of wages from white employers, and 27 entered complaint of whipping and other brutal treatment from the hands of white citizens. This is in a locality where the Federal authority is efficiently maintained. (?) What, then, must be the condition of the Freedmen where they have no appeal from the will of the whites—no protection against their cruelties!

CHURCH BURNING.—Four church buildings, occupied by colored congregations, and either belonging to or assigned to them, have been fired in Mobile; three of them were destroyed and the other materially injured. The last of these fires occurred on the last day of February. Threats had been made for some time, and a fire-wall between the church and an adjoining mill was completed only four or five days before the malicious deed was perpetrated.

POOR WHITES VS. FREEDMEN.—From the published report of the Agent of the Freedmen's Bureau at Mobile, it appears, that for the week ending Feb. 10th, 571 persons drew rations of food from Government, of whom 520 were white and 51 colored people. During the week following, ending Feb. 17th, the total number thus fed was 549—of whom 500 were whites and 49 blacks.

Children's Department.

THE BEST PART.

A little girl of five on hearing it announced that a day of Thanksgiving had been appointed, and that there would be services in the church, supposed that if there was to be preaching there would also be the usual Sabbath-school session. Being enlightened on this point, she burst into tears and exclaimed—"I don't think much of the Governor or the President either, to go to work and make a Sunday, and leave out the best part of it."

THE NEWSBOY'S MITE.—A newsboy of Chicago, one of the many poor but brave-hearted little fellows who are out on the street, early and late, in every season and in all weather, and strive by selling papers to make an honest living for themselves, recently heard one of our agents tell the sad story of the Freed people, and when men who count their profits by the thousand were of their abundance contributing to the good cause, he handed to the Agent five cents from his hard earnings, saying that he would get along with what remained of his profits that day.

**THE NORTHWESTERN
FREEDMEN'S AID COMMISSION,
ROOMS,
109 Monroe Street—Lombard Block,
P. O. BOX 2747, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.**

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Communications, including remittances, should be addressed to "Rev. J. M. WALDEN, D. D., Post Office Box 2747, Chicago, Ill." Boxes of clothing, etc., should be marked "NORTHWESTERN FREEDMEN'S AID COMMISSION, 109 Monroe Street, Chicago, Ill." The residence of the donors should also be plainly marked upon the box, and duplicate invoices of contents made, one to be placed in the box, and the other to be sent by mail to the Corresponding Secretary, as above.

Cash Receipts during January.

Illinois.

Amboy, Th. col. by A. E. Wilcox,	\$14 00
Antioch,	18 25
Aroma, by Rev. S. P. Deach,	6 00
Baileyville, Th. col. by Rev. S. T. Ornstead,	11 15
Belvidere, F. A. S. by Electa Campbell, Treas.,	29 00
Berwick, Union Th. col. by Rev. T. J. W. Sul- livan,	19 00
Bishop Hill,	97 35
Brierton,	21 25
Brooklyn, by Rev. J. T. Whitmore,	6 75
Bristol, by Rev. O. Littlefield,	6 70
Byron, by J. P. Stoddard,	10 00
Camden Mills by D. H. Gray,	2 60
Calumet, Ref. Dutch ch. by Rev. Mr. Leppotik,	18 70
Cambridge, M. E. and Cong. chs. by Rev. G. M.	
Morey,	11 40
Cedar Point,	33 00
Chicago, Jonathan Burr,	500 00
Colored School, by Miss Cherrie,	2 00
Jas. H. Knapp,	25 00
Geo. Armour,	100 00
Jno. H. Allen,	25 00
Reed & Bushnell,	10 00
Jno. M. Van Osdel,	23 00
Rouers & Co.,	25 00
T. W. Baxter,	20 00
T. W. Town,	10 00
Cash by D. Ryder,	35 40
Geo. E. Carpenter,	25 00
Christ ch.	49 35
Olivet ch. by N. S. Bonton.	100 00
Dement, Th. col. add'l. by R. D. Appleford,	1 00
Dunton,	23 79
" by Rev. N. Barrett,	20 45
El Piso,	218 50
Eureka,	2 05
Forest City, by Rev. O. Littlefield,	10 00
Galva, S. A. Soc'y,	6 85
" Widow's mite,	23 00
Geneva, Th. col. by A. G. Bubee,	10 95
Granville,	5 00
Greenville, additional,	5 00
Hamilton, a friend, by E. F. Humphry,	8 55
Hennepin,	9 00
Joliet,	4 00
Kewanee, F. A. Soc'y,	41 00
" M. E. ch.	167 00
Lacon, Pres. ch	18 15
" others,	16 00
Lee Center, by M. Wright,	16 00

Lewiston, M. C. R.,	\$2 00
Litchfield, Th. col.	20 00
Minonk,	10 00
Millburn, Cong. ch.	23 50
" Children's Contraband Garden Fund,	23 50
Morris, G. P. Hicks,	5 00
Oregon, Th. col. by T. O. Powell,	23 50
Perry,	36 00
Plainfield, M. Gartner,	5 00
Roseville, F. A. S. by H. H. Griffin,	6 50
" "	10 00
Rock Island, R. Blythe,	5 00
Rutland,	7 00
Savbrook, M. E. ch. by Geo. Rutledge,	25 00
South Burns and N. E. Galva,	4 75
Sparland,	6 00
Tiskilwa, H. N. Morris,	5 00
Tonica,	90 50
Washington,	68 75
Warsaw, by Jas. Elder,	4 75
Wenona,	44 50
Wethersfield, M. E. ch.	10 00

Iowa.

Algona, by Rev. C. Taylor,	40 00
Burlington, German Association M. E. ch.	7 15
Center Grove, by R. Bronson,	2 25
Des Moines, U. P. ch.	39 00
" Disciples,	18 85
Dubuque, M. E. ch. add'l. by A. H. Ames,	2 00
Earlyville, proceeds of a festival, by J. B. Taylor,	61 35
Eau Claire, M. E. ch. by Rev. F. E. Brown,	31 60
Libertyville, Pres. ch. by A. S. Wells,	12 00
New London, M. E. ch.	7 15
" Bapt. ch.	1 45
National, M. E. ch. by Rev. R. Ricker,	18 00
Oakland, by B. B. Lane,	9 00
Oskaloosa, O. P. ch.	100 45
" F. A. Society,	12 30
" S. Pres. ch.	25 65
" Cumb'd Pres. ch.	8 15
" by Rev. Mr. McAyeal,	8 00
" R. Dumont,	5 00
" I. Coulter,	10 00
" N. J. Smith,	5 00
" I. Lorimer,	1 00
" E. Kether,	1 00
" B. Hollingsworth,	1 00
" A. Hollingsworth,	1 00
" James Brown,	1 00
" Wm. Wells,	5 00
" Dr. Henton,	5 00
" A. M. Abraham,	2 00
" I. Thompson,	1 00
" W. S. Eagar,	1 00
Somerset, U. P. ch.	83 75
Sharon, Ref. Pres. ch. add'l.,	19 00
Spring Creek, monthly meeting,	29 50
Springville, Th. col. M. E. ch. by Rev. W. E.	5 30
" McC.	
West Des Moines, M. E. ch.	22 55
Yankee Settlement, by N. G. Platt,	5 00

Wisconsin.

Albany, Union meeting,	3 15
" J. H. Warren,	5 00
" Cash,	2 50
Black River Falls, Union meeting,	33 15
Bloomingdale, M. E. ch. by Rev. J. H. Johnson,	5 00
Brookfield, Th. col. by Rev. I. W. Ford,	3 75
Brookfield, M. E. ch.	16 25
Colons, by C. P. Payne,	5 00
East Trenton,	7 00
Elkhorn, Union meeting,	9 50
Fort Atkinson, Th. col. by Rev. D. O. Jones,	10 25
Geneva, Union S. S. by W. J. Miller,	18 00
Green Bay, Th. col. by Rev. D. Butler,	11 50
Harford, by Rev. H. Wheelock,	6 70
Hebron,	6 80
Juda, Union meeting,	7 00
" Cash,	6 50
Melrose,	24 55
Mashes School Home,	6 00
Munroe, Cong. ch.	19 75
" M. E. ch.	17 88
" Universalist ch.	11 25
" German Evang. ch.	31 30
" Cash,	17 00
Monticello, M. E. ch.	3 10
" Cash,	16 00

Gambier Circuit, O., M. E. ch. pr. Rev. O. Webster,	\$64 00	Eldorado, by C. Wertz Juday,	\$19 25
Shawnee Mound, Ind., M. E. ch. pr. Rev. Jesse Mebassy,	12 50	Goshen, by Moses Frylarger,	35 30
Wood Grove, O., M. E. ch. pr. Rev. L. B. Gurley,	3 10	Grimtown, by Lieut. Wm. Wells,	5 00
Deerfield, O., Pres. cong. pr. Rev. W. A. Miller,	14 49	Hillsboro, M. E. ch. by J. J. Brown,	61 70
Marsailles, O., M. E. ch. pr. Rev. S' M. Boggs,	10 00	" colored, by Miss Jennie Wilson,	9 30
Whitecland, Ind., Bethany ch. pr. J. C. Graham,	6 00	Lewisburg, by T. K. Spillman,	5 60
Xenia, O., M. E. ch. pr. Rev. J. C. Crum,	19 31	Lebanon, by Messrs. Morris & Dunham,	171 45
Dayton, O., Ladies' F. A. S., pr. Mrs. O. F. Town,	150 00	Loveland, by John E. Thompson,	26 40
Fremont, O., Ladies' F. A. Soc. pr. Treasurer,	20 71	Lynchburg, by Rev. J. Cadwalader,	12 00
Oxford, O., S. S. Pres. ch. pr. H. S. Brown,	20 00	Martinville, by Messrs. Taft & Brown,	4 25
Westerville, O., Union meeting, pr. W. Blysen,	27 81	Millville, by John Micker,	5 30
East Farmington, E. B. Wildman,	12 25	New Lexington, by Messrs. Johnson & Rosegate,	22 00
Chillicothe, O., German M. E., Rev. C. Helwig,	7 00	Olive Branch, by Frances Jeffrey,	1 60
Maxville, O., pr. E. G. Collins,	21 80	Red Lion, by J. L. Slank,	48 25
		Sabina, by Wm. H. Dakin,	16 00
		Sligo, by Miss R. A. Stratton,	9 50
		Springboro, by M. Wright,	50 00
Blanchester, by Charles Harris,	2 00	Somerville, by Rev. Wm. Logue,	38 75
Brookville, by Frank Masters,	4 00	Westboro, by Daniel Nole, Esq.	7 50
Carrollton, by William Lamme,	8 00	Winchester, by E. S. Bradstreet,	7 68
Camden, by Mr. C. M. Riller,	20 28	Wilmington, by Wm. C. Hadley,	11 00
Collinsville, by George Hippard,	8 25	Woodville, by Messrs. Dudley & McClellan,	16 77
Deerfield, by B. Carroll,	16 00	Centerville, Ind., by Dela Matre,	1 00

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Brookville, by Frank Masters,	4 00	Westboro, by Daniel Nole, Esq.	7 50
Carrollton, by William Lamme,	8 00	Winchester, by E. S. Bradstreet,	7 68
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